

much we stand to gain with the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act.

This bill will save taxpayer funds and increase transparency by making Federal agencies accountable for the money they spend. I'm telling my constituents right now, we are cutting wasteful spending, and we have a powerful new tool to do it.

MOST AMERICANS WANT TO DRILL IN DEEP WATER

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the American people are opposed to the administration's ban on deepwater drilling. Almost three-quarters of American people, 73 percent, say the ban is not necessary. But in spite of the will of most Americans, in spite of two court rulings that say that the moratorium is arbitrary, capricious, and punitive, the administration is determined to kill jobs in the deepwater industry.

You just can't hit the pause button on the gulf coast economy. The President's moratorium on drilling is destroying lives, and good people are being put out of work on purpose by this administration. These aren't statistics. These are real people, hard-working people. How do they pay their mortgage and buy their groceries and put gasoline in their car?

On Friday, one of the world's biggest drilling companies had to move another deepwater rig to the Middle East and out of the Gulf of Mexico because of this moratorium. All of the good-paying jobs are going with it.

Mr. Speaker, the moratorium on drilling is the second disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, and it's brought to us by this administration.

And that's just the way it is.

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Mr. SIREs asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, right now 15 million out-of-work Americans are relying on Congress to work together and immediately extend unemployment benefits to help them make ends meet while they're looking for a full-time job. Right now the unemployment in my State of New Jersey is 9.7 percent, with nearly half a million out of work. Now is not the time to stall in providing assistance to those who need it most.

Earlier this month, the House passed a bill to restore emergency unemployment benefits for unemployed Americans and their families through the end of November. The Senate must now follow our lead and act swiftly in passing an extension of benefits to send to the President's desk. Doing so would not only provide a much-needed lifeline for jobless Americans and their families, but it makes economic sense.

The CBO has suggested that extending unemployment benefits is one of the most cost-effective and fast-acting ways to stimulate the economy. It is our duty to act now and provide relief for millions of unemployed Americans and their families.

BROKEN GOVERNMENT

(Mr. REICHERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, let's get real. The real deal is government is broken.

I'm always thankful to go back to the district and hear from our constituents, but you know what I'm hearing? The government's broken, and the American people are sick and tired of it. So am I. They're tired of partisan games and business as usual. So am I.

Why can't we work together to solve this country's problems? Why can't we get it right? Why are we not listening to the American public? Why? That's the big question the American people are asking. Why can't we, as Members and Representatives of this great country and each and every district that we represent, stand here together on this floor in this House and work together to solve the problems that this Nation is facing? It's about freedom. It's about jobs. It's about our country. It's about our people. It's about our children and our grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, let's listen to the American people. This government is broken.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

(Mr. WILSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, by July 17, more than 112,000 people in the State of Ohio will lose unemployment benefits due to the Senate's inaction. For out-of-work families, these benefits help pay the rent, they buy food, and they pay for health care when there isn't a paycheck coming in.

During these tough economic times, extending unemployment benefits is one of the most efficient and fast-acting ways to stimulate our economy. That is why on July 1, I voted in favor of the 6-month unemployment benefits extension, which would continue benefits until November 30.

With the Ohio unemployment rate growing to 11 percent in June, this emergency relief is absolutely necessary for Ohio, and I will continue to fight for the passage of a long-term unemployment package. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to pass the 6-month extension immediately. The time to act is now.

YOUCUT

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to ad-

dress the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, seven proposals have been brought to this floor for a vote directly from participants in the interactive forum YouCut. These proposals are commonsense cost savers of the people's money. House Republicans have listened to the will of the people and have voted to save billions by reforming Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, by selling excess Federal lands, and by preventing taxpayer subsidized union activities. Yesterday, the House had another opportunity to save money by getting rid of promotional stimulus signs.

A year and a half after the spending stimulus passed, unemployment has risen to 10 percent, as the so-called stimulus has failed to create jobs. But liberals cleverly came up with propaganda to push Americans on this failed policy at a cost of up to \$10,000 a sign. Stimulus signs are nationwide. If we eliminated this waste, \$20 million could be saved. When it comes to wasteful Washington spending, all signs point to the stimulus.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DOES NOT DISCOURAGE THE JOB SEARCH

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, unemployment benefits are a necessary lifeline for jobless workers trying to make ends meet and also provide a boost to the economy. These benefits are crucial when there are five job seekers for every available job. Unemployment benefits keep workers attached to the workforce, preventing some workers from shifting to other more costly programs, such as Social Security disability insurance.

By the end of 2010, the Joint Economic Committee estimates that 290,000 unemployed disabled workers will exhaust their benefits. Shifting these workers from the labor market and onto the Social Security disability insurance rolls—the cost of inaction—is a staggering \$24.2 billion lifetime cost, contrasted with \$721.3 million this year by extending the benefits.

Extending unemployment benefits is both morally right and the fiscally responsible thing to do, providing a boost to the economy and a savings to the government.

IT'S TIME TO CUT UP THE CREDIT CARD

(Mr. NEUGEBAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, the Democratic leadership got their credit